

MINUTES
SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 05, 2020

TIME: 3:00 P.M.

PLACE: Room WW55

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Mortimer, Vice Chairman Thayn, Senators Den Hartog, Crabtree, Woodward, Lent, Mathias(Buckner-Webb), and Ward-Engelking

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: Senator Winder

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Mortimer** called the meeting of the Senate Education Committee (Committee) to order at 3:05 p.m.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Chairman Mortimer passed the gavel to Vice Chairman Thayn.

Vice Chairman Thayn said the Committee had previously heard the rules and Committee action would now take place.

DOCKET NO. 08-0113-1901 **Tracie Bent**, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, State Board of Education (Board), told the Committee the docket outlines the eligibility and application requirements and amends a section authorizing the Board to award up to 20 percent of the funds to individuals with 24 or more postsecondary credits.

MOTION: **Chairman Mortimer** moved to approve **Docket No. 08-0113-1901**. **Senator Ward-Engelking** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 08-0201-1902 **Ms. Bent** stated that last year, legislation was introduced that conflicted with language already in code. Also, two sections were identified that are now obsolete and are being removed.

MOTION: **Senator Lent** moved to approve **Docket No. 08-0201-1902**. **Senator Crabtree** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 08-0202-1901 **Marilyn Whitney**, Deputy Superintendent of Communications and Policy, State Department of Education, explained that the docket sets standards for suicide awareness and prevention training to public school personnel.

MOTION: **Senator Crabtree** moved to approve **Docket No. 08-0202-1901**. **Chairman Mortimer** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 08-0202-1902 **Ms. Whitney** presented this rule and said the Professional Standards Commission follows a strategic plan of annually reviewing 20 percent of the Idaho standards for initial certification. All standards and endorsements were revised to better align with national standards and best practices. Also, technical corrections were made.

DISCUSSION: **Chairman Mortimer** asked if this docket contains anything that the Idaho House of Representatives had taken issue with. **Ms. Whitney** responded that the House would be addressing the docket tomorrow.

MOTION: **Chairman Mortimer** moved that **Docket No. 08-0202-1902** be held subject to the call of the Chair. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 08-0202-1903 **Ms. Bent** drew the Committee's attention to the added text of the rule and told the Committee that some definitions had been deleted from the rule since they had been updated in Idaho Code.

MOTION: **Chairman Mortimer** moved to approve **Docket No. 08-0202-1903**. **Senator Lent** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 08-0203-1901 **Ms. Bent** told the Committee that each Career Technical Education (CTE) program had standalone standards prior to 2016. During the 2016 rulemaking process, the standards were incorporated into the administrative code. The standards being considered this year include agriculture and natural resources; business and marketing education; engineering and technology; health sciences; and skilled and technical sciences.

DISCUSSION: **Chairman Mortimer** inquired if the Committee had already approved the CTE omnibus. **Ms. Bent** indicated that the Committee had, but that the standards were contained in the general omnibus rather than the CTE omnibus. **Ms. Bent** responded to Committee questions that the standards do not require any specific methods of teaching.

MOTION: **Senator Ward-Engelking** moved to approve **Docket No. 08-0203-1901**. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 08-0203-1902 **Ms. Bent** told the Committee that this docket pertains to data collection and requires school districts to report chronic absenteeism to the Board rather than to the federal government.

MOTION: **Chairman Mortimer** moved to approve **Docket No. 08-0203-1902**. **Senator Crabtree** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 08-0203-1903 **Ms. Whitney** explained that this docket establishes science standards for significantly cognitively impaired students and updates the timing of the administration of the science assessment.

DISCUSSION: **Chairman Mortimer** asked if the rule only applies to significantly cognitively impaired students. **Ms. Whitney** responded that only the extended science standards affected that population of students, and that the timing update of science assessment applied to all students. The Committee asked what would happen if they rejected the science standards. **Ms. Whitney** responded that the state is required to have standards and that designing and developing a new set of standards, plus a new test, may take a very long time.

MOTION: **Chairman Mortimer** moved to approve **Docket No. 08-0203-1903**. **Senator Ward-Engelking** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 08-0204-1901 **Ms. Bent** explained that the rule allows for charter schools whose charter authorizer has neither approved nor denied a school's charter certificate to remain charter schools until a decision is reached.

DISCUSSION: **Senator Den Hartog** asked if charter schools authorized by school districts go through a process to be certified as charter schools and **Ms. Bent** responded that they do.

MOTION: **Senator Lent** moved to approve **Docket No. 08-0204-1901**. **Chairman Mortimer** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

DOCKET NO. 55-0103-1901 **Ms. Bent** said that the docket transitioned the distribution formula for added-cost funding for CTE schools from average daily attendance to an enrollment-based formula.

DISCUSSION: **Chairman Mortimer** inquired if the amount of money for CTE schools would change. **Ms. Bent** responded that it would not.

MOTION: **Chairman Mortimer** moved to approve **Docket No. 55-0103-1901**. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Vice Chairman Thayn passed the gavel back to Chairman Mortimer.

RS 27598 **Vice Chairman Thayn** told the Committee that **RS 27598** encourages parents to be involved in their elementary child's education and to partner with public school teachers. By doing this, students can get ahead in their academic studies and parents can negotiate a flexible attendance schedule which will allow a student to have partial day or full day absences for the purpose of family activities, recreation, travel, and home-based educational activities. The bill has a mechanism that will not let schools lose funding and it also determines if the child is advanced.

MOTION: **Senator Den Hartog** moved to send **RS 27598** to print. **Senator Crabtree** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Mortimer** adjourned the meeting at 3:41 p.m.

Senator Mortimer
Chair

Morgan Howard
Secretary

Juanita Budell
Assistant Secretary